

## AMENDMENT

|                |                      |
|----------------|----------------------|
| Application #  | 09/913,402           |
| Confirmation # | 8312                 |
| Filing Date    | August 14, 2001      |
| First Inventor | NAGAE                |
| Art Unit       | 1617                 |
| Examiner       | Sharareh, Shahnam J. |
| Docket #       | P07336US00/BAS       |

Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

S I R:

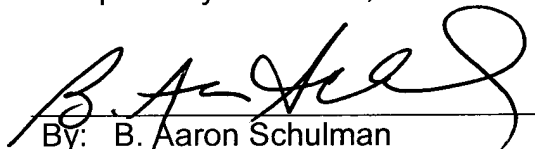
In response to the Office Action dated May 5, 2006, and further to the Examiner Interview of August 31, 2006, please consider the responsive **Remarks** provided herewith in **Attachment A**, and please amend the above-identified application as follows:

- **Amendments to the Claims** are reflected in the listing of the claims provided herewith in **Attachment B**.

In view of the amendments made and the remarks provided, it is submitted that the present application is in condition for allowance.

Respectfully submitted,

Date: September 5, 2006

  
By: B. Aaron Schulman  
Registration No.: 31,877

**STITES & HARBISON PLC** ♦ 1199 North Fairfax St. ♦ Suite 900 ♦ Alexandria, VA 22314  
TEL: 703-739-4900 ♦ FAX: 703-739-9577 ♦ CUSTOMER NO. 000881